

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTONONE NEW GENUS AND THREE NEW RACES OF
BIRDS FROM THE MALAY REGION.BY J. H. RILEY.¹

While working on Dr. Hugh M. Smith's Siamese collections, I have reached the conclusion that the following genus and three races of birds should be separated from the forms with which they have been associated. They may be known from the following descriptions:

Chalcocomus, gen. nov.

Type and only species.—*Acomus inornatus* Salvadori.

Similar to *Houppifer* Gúerin-Méneville (type *Phasianus erythrophthalmus* Raffles), but the bare skin on the sides of head more restricted and not produced into an erectile flap in front; upper tail-coverts extending nearer to the tip of the tail; wing tip shorter; feet slenderer; middle toe and claw proportionally longer. Coloration quite distinct; males entirely black with metallic purplish blue tips to the feathers of the upper parts and chest; females chestnut with tawny-olive or buffy brown centers to the feathers. Confined to the island of Sumatra.

Harpactes erythrocephalus chaseni, subsp. nov.

Type, adult male, U. S. National Museum, no. 149749, Semangko Pass, 2700-4000 feet, Selangar-Pahang Border, February 14, 1904.

Similar to *Harpactes erythrocephalus erythrocephalus* of northern Siam, but smaller and darker above; the red on the pileum and throat darker and duller and on the remainder of the lower parts less intense; wing coverts duller. Wing 136; tail 163; culmen 19 mm.

Remarks.—While I have had for examination only a male and female from the mountains of the Federated Malay States for examination, the series from northern Siam has been ample, consisting of seven males and one female. Chasen and Kloss (Journ. Siam Soc. Nat. Hist. Suppl., vol. 8, no. 4, 1932, p. 234) have noticed the above differences also, but erroneously supposed the Malay States form represented *erythrocephalus*. Gould

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described *Trogon erythrocephalus* from Rangoon, Burma, and northern Siamese specimens would logically belong to it rather than to a race hundreds of miles away with unsuitable intervening country between for the species to inhabit. Specimens of *Harpactes erythrocephalus flagrans* from Sumatra, I have not seen, but Robinson (*Birds Malay Peninsula*, vol. 2, 1928, p. 75) says it is smaller and brighter than the mainland bird.

***Cyanops franklini trangensis*, subsp. nov.**

Type, adult female, U. S. National Museum, no. 160236, Kao Nom Plu, 3000 feet, Trang, Peninsular Siam, February 22, 1897. Collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Similar to *Cyanops franklini ramsayi* of northern Siam, but with a larger, heavier bill; the crown spot and throat a more golden yellow; the supra-auriculars, auriculars, sides of neck and jugulum darker and duskier; above and below a darker green. Wing 98; tail 60; culmen 28 mm.

Remarks.—Dr. Abbott collected two males and three females from the mountains of Trang. These have been compared with six males and ten females from northern and western Siam. There does not appear to be any difference in the sexes in color or size, except in the series measured the females have on the average slightly larger bills.

The two males and three females from Trang measure: wing 98–101 (99); tail 55–61 (59); culmen 26–28 (27).

Six males and nine females from northern and western Siam measure: wing 97–105.5 (100); tail 55–63 (59.5); culmen 22–27 (24.5).

Cyanops franklini minor Kloss and Chasen of the Federated Malay States is smaller than *ramsayi* and consequently smaller than *trangensis*. Two males and one female of *minor* in the United States National Museum measure: wing 88–93.5 (91); tail 59.5–64 (61.5); culmen 20.5–21.5 (21).

It seems strange that a form coming from an intermediate locality should have a larger bill than either that to the north or south of it.

***Anthreptes rhodolaema aenea*, subsp. nov.**

Type, adult male, United States National Museum, no. 182,632, Labuan Klambu, Dutch East Borneo, June 25, 1913. Collected by H. C. Raven (original no. 883).

Similar to *Anthreptes rhodolaema rhodolaema* from the Malay Peninsula, but head and mantle a bright coppery green without any lilac purple reflections; the cheeks, the median and greater wing coverts and the scapulars with more pronounced morocco red edgings. Wing 70; tail 44.5; culmen 17 mm.

Remarks.—Captain G. E. Shelley described *Anthreptes rhodolaema* (*Monograph nectariniidae*, part 7–8, June, 1878, p. 313) from Malacca and Sumatra. I would designate Malacca as the type locality of the species. Dr. W. L. Abbott collected two males of this form in Trang, Peninsular Siam. Mr. H. C. Raven collected six males and three females at Labuan Klambu, Dutch East Borneo. The two Trang males have a strong lilac purple iridescence to the head and mantle; this is entirely lacking in

the Bornean series, except in two and in these it is faint and lacking from the crown and forehead. The series from Trang is too small to show whether there is an average difference in size. The three females from Borneo I am unable to compare with this sex from the Malay Peninsula. I do not believe Shelley's description of the female is correct. The three Bornean females are quite different from the same sex of *A. celebensis*. They are more yellowish above (light yellowish olive) and the tails are not so dark and are more strongly edged with the color of the rump; the Bornean females below are a much deeper yellow, with a yellowish citrine wash on the chest and flanks and becoming citron yellow on the middle of the abdomen.